

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

Date (month / year): June 2018

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form
Number

69-0-1-0

Hanover

HNS.247

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 556 Maquan Street

Historic Name: Isaac N. and Ina Foster
House

Uses: Present: Single-Family
Residential
Original: Single-Family Residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1872

Source: White's History, Plan No.

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: David O. Howland

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Vinyl Clapboard/Vinyl, Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Vinyl privacy fence around rear yard

Major Alterations (*with dates*): One-story, shed roofed addition to south façade, one-and-a-half story gable-roofed addition to southwest corner and one-story shed roofed addition is located in the southwest corner of the gable roofed addition.

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.92 Acres

Setting: Located in a small residential area of moderately sized, spaced out lots surrounded by ponds and wetlands adjacent to the Hanson/Pembroke town line.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

556

Maquan Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HNS.247

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half-story cottage has a large, gable-end roof over an original rectangular footprint. A second, gable roofed addition is attached to the southwest corner of the building with a one-story, low hip roofed addition to its north and a second one-story, shed roofed extension to its south. A short brick chimney is located at the center of the gable-end roof ridge. The roof of the gable-end extends out only slightly over the gable facades but projects out well beyond the gable-end pediment with boxy, vinyl wrapped eaves and soffits and narrow returns at the lower edge of the pediment. The house is entirely vinyl clapboard sided with vinyl trim replacing the original wood trim in all but a few locations. The double hung windows have also been replaced with vinyl one-over-one windows throughout.

The house faces north towards the street and has two double hung windows located in the center of its gable-end. Two more windows are located on the first floor of the house to the left of the front entrance. A flat wooden hood extends over and around the front entrance with wood molding around the eaves and wide, curving wood brackets to either side of the door across the tall cornice. The door itself is a metal replacement door located behind a wood storm door with a narrow brick paver walkway leading to the driveway to the east. To the right, the low hip roofed addition encloses a former porch and extends the full width of the gable addition to the southwest corner. The addition has a second entrance to the house, this one with a long cement walkway leading to it from the street. This door is also a metal replacement door with a large nine-pane window in its upper half over panels below. The former porch has a low vinyl clapboard wall around the lower half of the façade and double hung windows across the top with one to the left of the entrance and two to the right with a square post in the corner. The low hip roof is located about eight inches below the eaves of the gable roofs at its tallest point.

On the east façade of the house, four double hung windows are equally distributed across the façade over a low railroad tie planting bed with several small bushes. A set of wood or composite steps and railings on the south façade of the house extend to the east from a rear deck and are just visible on the rear façade. On the west façade, the low hip roofed enclosed porch has four more double hung windows lining the upper half of the building. To the south, a single window is located in the gable-end with two more on the first floor of the building. The southernmost window is located in the west façade of a one-story shed roofed addition to the rear façade which is flush with the west façade of the gable roofed addition. The sides of a wood deck and its railings are just visible around the southwest corner of the house.

Heavy vegetation and mature trees are located to the west of the house and limit the visibility of that façade. On the east side, a tall vinyl board fence extends from behind the porch stairs in the southeast corner of the house to the east property line. In front of the fence, an asphalt paved semi-circular driveway is located to the east of the house with a parking area adjacent to the rear deck. The inner edge of the driveway is finished in stone cobbles and a large, mature tree is located at the center of this median. The property is otherwise open grass with a few mature trees and bushes scattered around the house.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

556

Maquan Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HNS.247

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's *History of Hanson*, the house was built in 1872 by David O. Howland for Isaac N. Foster and in White's time, was occupied by Solon Simpson. David O. Howland (1811-1895) was born in Pembroke to Allen Howland and Sally Oldham and was married to Mary H. Ford in Pembroke in 1838. From the 1850s through the 1880s, David appears in both state and federal census records as both a carpenter and housewright, and also occasionally as a farmer. Isaac N. Foster (1848-1911) was the son of Isaac and Susan Foster of Hanson, and married Ina M. Ford in Hanson in 1872. Isaac had purchased the land from his father that year for the new house, which was presumably built for the newlywed couple.¹

Isaac was working as a shoemaker in Hanson in the 1870 U.S. Census but had moved to Pembroke by the end of the decade to work for a shoe and boot factory there. Isaac sold the house in 1879 to his younger brother, Hannibal (also Hannabal and Hannibel) H. Foster (1851-1946)² who was also a shoemaker and farmer and is shown as the owner of the house on the 1879 Walker Atlas. In 1883, Hannibal sold the property to Almira J. (Foster) Simpson (1848-1906), wife of George F. Simpson (1846-1893), a shoecutter.³ Almira transferred the property to her son, Solon F. Simpson (1870-1952), in 1898.⁴ Solon worked as both a farmer and a heel shaver at the shoe factory. He married Mabel A. Keene (1870-1932) in Pembroke in 1893 and the couple raised their family in the house. The 1903 Richards Atlas shows the "S.F. Simpson" house with its current footprint and a barn or outbuilding to the west. In 1954, their sons, George F. and Noel, and daughters Madella Sleeper and Ellen Sherman, sold the house to Arthur J. (1915-1978) and Alice Stone (1921-2000).⁵ Arthur Stone had previously lived in Braintree where he worked as a welder in the shipyards as of the 1940 U.S. Census. Arthur and Alice lived at 556 Maquan Street through the 1990s, passing it down to their son, Brian M. Stone, who sold the house to Melissa Wisnaskas in 2002.⁶ Melissa Wisnaskas sold the house the next year to Daniel Murphy and James Lenardis who sold it in 2004 to Robert and Donna Colestock. Current owner Michael P. Murphy purchased the house from the Colestocks in 2011.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Brown, Donna McCulloch. *Images of America: Hanson*. Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2003.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts State Census, 1855 and 1865. Located in Local History Room, Hanson Public Library and www.ancestry.com

Gurney, E.B.K., "History of Hanson," in D.H. Hurd, *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts* (Philadelphia, 1884), p. 340-355. Available at www.archive.org/details/historyofplymout02hurd/page/340

Hanson Historical Commission. *History of Town of Hanson*. March 2, 1959. (Typescript) Project of Historical Commission and Board of Selectmen approved by vote of Town Meeting. <http://www.archive.org/details/historyoftownofh00sn>

Massachusetts Birth, Marriage and Death Records. www.ancestry.com

Obituaries, Burial information, and Family Trees, www.findagrave.com

¹ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 386, Page 86

² Massachusetts, Death Index, 1901-1980; 1900 United States Federal Census

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 501, page 66

⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 770, page 380

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2339 page 471

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 21843, page 186

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

HANSON

556

Maquan Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

HNS.247

Richards, L.J. *New Topographic Atlas of Plymouth County and Cohasset Town*, 1903. Town of Hanson, Plate 16. www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/9831/Hanson+Town++Pembroke+Town/Plymouth+County+and+Cohasset+Town+1903/Massachusetts/

Smith, J. Plan of Hanson. 1830. <https://usgenwebhansonma.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/1830hansonmap.jpg>

Town of Hanson Assessor's database and property record cards, www.assessedvalues2.com/index.aspx?jurcode=123

Town of Hanson Assessor's Records on Persons and Property, 1941-1970. Local History Room, Hanson Public Library.

U.S. Census information, www.ancestry.com

Walker, George H. *Atlas of Plymouth County, Mass.* 1879. Map of the Town of Hanson at www.historicmapworks.com/Map/US/8999/Hanson+Town/Plymouth+County+1879/Massachusetts/,

Walling, Henry Francis. *Map of town of Hanson, Plymouth County, Mass. 1856.* (New York, 1857). www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:1257bd15g

White, Joseph B. *White's History of Hanson, MA.* 1932. Annotated manuscript compiled between 1908-1932 and revised by Allan Clemons, 2014. Binder copy located in the Local History Room, Hanson Public Library